

## Voters Endorse King Caesar House Restoration Projects

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The venerable 1808 King Caesar House on Powder Point will receive a new cedar roof and the stone wharf across the street at Bumpus Park will be repaired, thanks to special town meeting action Monday night.

Voters approved \$89,200 from the Community Preservation Act fund (\$83,000 slated for historical preservation and \$7,000 from the general CPA monies) for three projects at the property on King Caesar Rd. owned by the Duxbury Rural and Historical Society.

Restoring the roof on the main house, the cottage and the barn from asphalt to cedar shingles will cost \$69,000.

The new roof on the main house should stop a leak that has been damaging one of the house's upstairs bedrooms. Bringing back the old look with the cedar shingles makes this a restoration not a maintenance project and therefore makes it eligible for Community Preservation Act funds. The house was built by shipping tycoon Ezra Weston Jr.

Repairing drainage prob-

lems at the summer kitchen will cost \$11,500. The drainage issue has affected this building's foundation. Installing a new French drain should solve the problem.

The third project involves stabilizing the wharf across from the King Caesar House at the Bumpus Park at a cost of \$4,225. Stones in the sea wall will be replaced.

According to DR&HS director Patrick Browne, the price of the work was based on bids

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## Voters OK King Caesar Projects

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the society received for each project. Town counsel Robert Troy said that since town money is being used, the DR&HS must adhere to the state's open bidding laws, in which the lowest bidder receives the contract after the projects have been public ally advertised.

One town meeting voter wanted assurances that the money spent will go to these specific projects. Town officials said the funds will only be paid when the projects are completed and inspected, and if the DR&HS sells the property within 20 years, (the life of the new roof), then it must repay the money to the town.